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Maine Heating Oil Prices Remain Stable

Augusta--- The Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security (OEIS) conducted its seasonal oil survey and found that the current statewide average cash price for No. 2 heating oil to be at **\$2.68 per gallon**, unchanged from last week.

"Optimism over the global economic recovery and awaited numbers from the U.S. Department of Energy's weekly oil inventory are factoring into oil markets," said OEIS Director, John Kerry. "Investing in energy efficiency is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce energy use in the home. With warmer weather on the way, it's a good idea to add weatherization projects to the spring cleaning list."

As of March 30th, 2010

Heating Oil	Statewide	Southwest	Central	Eastern	Western	Northern
Average	2.68	2.56	2.72	2.77	2.61	2.86
High	2.90	2.75	2.85	2.90	2.70	2.88
Low	2.40	2.40	2.62	2.63	2.42	2.85
Kerosene	3.06	2.93	3.09	3.20	2.95	3.23
Propane	2.81					

It is important to note that the price for heating oil is a statewide average and that prices in a given geographic region of the state may be considerably higher or lower than the statewide average. Within the OEIS sample, the lowest actual heating oil price of \$2.40 per gallon was found in the Southwestern region. The highest price of \$2.90 per gallon was found in the Eastern region. The statewide kerosene price average is \$3.06 per gallon at this time. The statewide average for propane based on a use of 600 gallons a year is \$2.81 per gallon. The table above provides current Maine cash prices in dollars rounded to the nearest penny.

At the time of this release the price of WTI crude oil, major driver of refined product prices, including heating oil was \$82.16.

For assistance please contact Efficiency Maine and ask about their Efficiency Maine Weatherization Program (formerly the Maine Home Performance Program). It links Maine homeowners with qualified, certified contractors who provide one-stop-shop access to a whole-house approach to home improvements. The first 4,000 **pre-approved** homes in the program will receive up to \$3,000 each in incentives for approved energy-efficiency projects that meet minimum heating and hot water energy savings requirements. For program details call 877-334-6583 or visit www.efficiencymaine.com. Businesses should take advantage of Efficiency Maine's small business loan program to make energy upgrades: http://www.efficiencymaine.com/business_programs.htm. The next survey is scheduled for April 5, 2010.

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